

REMARKS

Claims 36-45 are now pending herein.

1. Claims 20-28, 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kitada U.S. Patent 5,606,611 in view of Matsuzaki U.S. Patent 6,289,314 and Saito U.S. Patent 5,901,339. Claims 20-28, 34 and 35 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 36 is most like old claim 20.

Kitada discloses a pay broadcasting system where multiple receivers are organized into groups. Kitada's system includes a receiving station management apparatus and a transmitting unit for outputting video and audio signals. Kitada's transmitting unit converts at least one video or audio signal into digital data to form a transmission frame. Kitada's transmitting unit has an input unit for inputting data for scramble processing of the video and audio signals, and data for determining which receiving stations receive a broadcasting service. The transmitting unit also includes an information generating section for generating scrambled information for performing descramble processing and for charging on the basis of the data supplied from the input unit. A synthesizing section for inserting the information generated by said information generating section on the transmission frame is also included in Kitada's transmitting unit. However, Kitada does not disclose notifying the transmitting end of ID information that can identify a service with which the first receiver tries to make a reception contract, as claimed by applicants.

Matsuzaki does not supply what is missing in Kitada. Matsuzaki discloses a pay information broadcasting system for descrambling information from plural sources and rescrambling the information before sending to a terminal or terminals, but not notifying the

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transmitting end of ID information that can identify a service with which the first receiver tries to make a reception contract, as claimed by applicants.

Saito does not supply what is missing in either Kitada and/or Matsukai. Saito discloses a pay-per-program broadcasting system wherein programs are broadcast with a permit code, but not notifying the transmitting end of ID information that can identify a service with which the first receiver tries to make a reception contract, as claimed by applicants.

For all of the foregoing reasons, there is no disclosure or teaching in any of Kitada, Matsuzaki, or Saito that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Further, there is no disclosure or teaching in any of Kitada, Matsuzaki, or Saito that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' claimed invention. Withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of all claims are therefore respectfully requested.

2. Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kitada, Matsuzaki, Saito, and Ellis et al. U.S. Published Patent Application 20010010095. Claim 29 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thereby mooting the rejection.

Accordingly, the application is now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 28951.1099). If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roger W. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 25,177

Tyson Y. Winarski, Reg. No. 41,381

Date: December 1, 2006

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202-429-3000  
Fax: 202-429-3902

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